

“(e) GRANT PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary of Commerce shall manage a program of competitive grants to universities or other research institutions, or groups of universities or research institutions, for the purposes of conducting the program established under subsection (d).

“(2) APPLICATIONS AND CONDITIONS.—In conducting the program, the Under Secretary—

“(A) shall establish a notification and application procedure;

“(B) may establish such conditions and require such assurances as are appropriate to ensure the efficiency and integrity of the grant program; and

“(C) may provide grants under the program on a matching or nonmatching basis.

“(f) ADVICE AND GUIDANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall accept comments and input from State and local governments, Indian tribes, industry representatives, and other stakeholders in carrying out the duties of the Committee under subsection (c).

“(2) ADVISORY COUNCIL.—The Committee may establish an Advisory Council consisting of nongovernment experts and stakeholders for the purpose of providing guidance to the Committee on matters under this section.

“(g) FACILITATION.—The Committee may develop joint partnerships or enter into memoranda of agreement or memoranda of understanding with institutions of higher education, States, and other entities to facilitate the research program required by subsection (d).

“(h) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Oil Spill Technology and Research Act of 2010, and annually thereafter, the Chairperson of the Committee shall submit to Congress a report that describes—

“(1) the activities carried out under this section during the preceding fiscal year; and

“(2) the activities that are proposed to be carried out under this section for the fiscal year during which the report is submitted.

“(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce to carry out this section—

“(1) \$200,000 for fiscal year 2010, to remain available until expended, for use in entering into arrangements with the National Academy of Sciences and for paying other expenses incurred in developing the reports and research program under this section; and

“(2) \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2012, to remain available until expended.”

(b) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY OF INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Interagency Coordinating Committee on Oil Pollution Research established under section 7001 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2761) (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act), and all authority of that Committee, terminate on the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) FUNDING.—Any funds made available for the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Oil Pollution Research described in paragraph (1) and remaining available as of the date of enactment of this Act shall be transferred to and available for use by the Federal Oil Spill Research Committee (as established by the amendment made by subsection (a)), without further appropriation or fiscal year limitation.

SEC. 3. RESPONSE PLAN UPDATE REQUIREMENT.

Section 311(j)(5) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(j)(5)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D)—

(A) by striking clause (v) and inserting the following:

“(v)(I) be updated at least every 5 years;

“(II) require the use of the best available technology and methods to contain and remove, to the maximum extent practicable, a worst-case discharge (including a discharge resulting from fire or explosion), and to mitigate or prevent a substantial threat of such a discharge; and

“(III) be resubmitted for approval upon each update (which shall be considered to be a significant change to the response plan) under this clause;”;

(B) in clause (vi), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(vii) include planned and demonstrated investments in research relating to oil discharges, risk assessment, and development of technologies for oil discharge response and prevention.”

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(J) TECHNOLOGY STANDARDS.—The Coast Guard may establish requirements and issue guidance for the use of best available technology and methods under subparagraph (D)(v), which technology and methods shall be based on performance metrics and standards, to the maximum extent practicable.”

SEC. 4. OIL DISCHARGE TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall establish a program for the formal evaluation and validation of oil pollution containment and removal methods and technologies.

(b) APPROVAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The program shall establish a process for new methods and technologies to be submitted, evaluated, and gain validation for use in responses to discharges of oil and inclusion in response plans.

(2) CONSIDERATION OF CAPABILITY.—Following each validation of a method or technology described in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider whether the method or technology meets a performance capability warranting designation of a new standard for best available technology or methods.

(3) LACK OF VALIDATION.—The lack of validation of a method or technology under this section shall not preclude—

(A) the use of the method or technology in response to a discharge of oil; or

(B) the inclusion of the method or technology in a response plan.

(c) TECHNOLOGY CLEARINGHOUSE.—Each technology and method validated under this section shall be included in the comprehensive list of discharge removal resources maintained through the National Response Unit of the Coast Guard.

(d) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with—

(1) the Secretary of the Interior;

(2) the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

(3) the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; and

(4) the Secretary of Transportation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 583—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATION OF 2011 AS “WORLD VETERINARY YEAR” TO BRING ATTENTION TO AND SHOW APPRECIATION FOR THE VETERINARY PROFESSION ON ITS 250TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. ENSIGN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 583

Whereas the first veterinary school in the world was founded in Lyon, France, in 1761;

Whereas 2011 will mark the 250th anniversary of veterinary education and the founding of the veterinary medical profession;

Whereas 2011 will mark the beginnings of comparative biopathology, a basic tenet of the “one health” concept;

Whereas veterinarians have played an integral role in discovering the causes of numerous diseases that affect the people of the United States, such as salmonellosis, West Nile Virus, yellow fever, and malaria;

Whereas veterinarians provide valuable public health service through preventive medicine, control of zoonotic diseases, and scientific research;

Whereas veterinarians have advanced human and animal health by inventing and refining techniques and instrumentations such as artificial hips, bone plates, splints, and arthroscopy;

Whereas veterinarians play an integral role in protecting the quality and security of the herd and food supply of the Nation;

Whereas military veterinarians provide crucial assistance to the agricultural independence of developing nations around the world;

Whereas disaster relief veterinarians provide public health service and veterinary medical support to animals and humans displaced and ravaged by disasters;

Whereas veterinarians are dedicated to preserving the human-animal bond and promoting the highest standards of science-based, ethical animal welfare;

Whereas 2011 would be an appropriate year to designate as “World Veterinary Year” to bring attention to and show appreciation for the veterinary profession on its 250th anniversary; and

Whereas colleagues in the United States will join veterinarians from around the world to celebrate this momentous occasion: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of 2011 as “World Veterinary Year”;;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of World Veterinary Year of bringing attention to and expressing appreciation for the contributions that the veterinary profession has made and continues to make to animal health, public health, animal welfare, and food safety; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe 2011 as World Veterinary Year with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 584—COMMEMORATING THE 2010 SPECIAL OLYMPICS USA NATIONAL GAMES

Mr. JOHANNIS submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: